

APRIL 3, 2022 – ONE ANOTHER SERIES SPEAK THE TRUTH TO ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE

REVIEW. The Lesson began with a reminder that the discourse in the Upper Room, as recorded in John 13 – 17, is the basis for our study of the “one anothers” in the New Testament Scriptures. It revolves around the two factors of Jesus command to love one another and his prayer for unity among his followers

LAST WEEK

RON taught us the context of the statement by Paul to bear one another’s burdens helping us to understand why Paul gives this instruction. It is our responsibility to help others who may be caught in sin and to help restore them. In thinking about bearing with one another, ask the question as to whom we are paying attention. Do we delight in one another as God delights in us? Do we really **CONNECT** with others with the heart of God? Do we have mercy on others? It is about attitude. To bear the burdens of another means to treat others as Christ treats us.

In reflecting on last week, a question was asked to further elaborate on the issue of having a mindset. Ron addressed the subject using Col. 3:2 which tells us to, “set our minds on things above and not on things here on earth.” Paul in Rom. 8 says, “Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live according to the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.” In both cases, what Paul refers to as mindset is essentially about paying attention. Paul is saying, what we pay attention to is what governs us. In both cases, what Paul refers to as mindset is essentially about paying attention. Paul is saying, what we pay attention to is what governs us.

THIS WEEK -- SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE

This week we discuss three passages declaring the need to speak the truth in love to one another.

ROMANS 15:14 “full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able to instruct one another”

1. “full of goodness”
 “Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good Rom 12:9
 “The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, Matt 12:35
2. “filled with all knowledge”
 “filled with all knowledge” Col. 3:16
3. “able to instruct”
 “And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” II Tim. 2:2

The context of this verse is Paul’s discussion of practical living in the last chapters of Romans. It is all about Christian community, having regard for weaker Christians, and seeking to strengthen others in the community. It begins with **GOODNESS** or being a righteous person with positive desires for others. Then follows the responsibility to acquire knowledge prior to seeking to teach others. And finally to speak truth into one another to build one another. Paul, writing to Timothy, again says it

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EPHESIANS 4:15 "speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ."

Ron directed us to vs 25, where Paul tells us to "put away falsehood" and to "speak the truth". Using the example of Adam and Eve in the garden. When the serpent came, it did so with deceit and lies. After succumbing to the lies, Eve was quick to lay the blame elsewhere. Prior to the lies, God directly fellowshiped with them in the garden and delighted in what he had created. After sin entered, God again sought to know and be known in a relationship with Adam and Eve. One another is all about relationships that are so easily broken because of lies and deceit.

COLOSSIANS 3:9 "Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices."

Bud reflected on the verse by suggesting what Paul was really saying within the context of Colossians. False teachings were a significant problem in Colossae and Paul saw the divisiveness of the problem. So, he instructs them to simply not lie to one another as it increases the likeliness of divisions among the people. There are several facets to lying that need to be considered.

WHAT IS PAUL REALLY SAYING?

FALSE WITNESS -- EXODUS 20:16; PROVERBS 19:9; and many other passages speak to the evil of giving false testimony regarding others.

THINGS HIDDEN -- LUKE 8:17 tells us that anything hidden will eventually be made known

DECEIT -- More than one hundred biblical references speak of deceit.

ACTION OR PRACTICE OF DECEIVING SOMEONE BY CONCEALING OR MISREPRESENTING THE TRUTH

It is vital to understand that God views lying as much more than simply direct false statements. Deception and withholding of the truth are all a part of lying.

HOW THEN SHALL WE LIVE?

BE HONEST

TELL THE TRUTH

NO DECEIT

BUT IN LOVE

NEXT WEEK -- ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER

I THESSALONIANS 5:11, HEBREWS 10:25